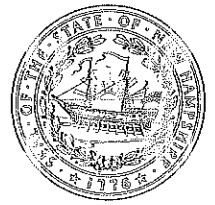




The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

October 29, 2009

Mr. John MacDonald
Vice President - Generation
Northeast Utilities
Public Service of New Hampshire
780 N. Commercial St.
Manchester, NH 03101

Re: Request for Additional Information for Determination of the Baseline Mercury Input

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Air Resources Division (Department) is currently reviewing the supplemental information submitted on October 27, 2009, by Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) regarding coal purchase and consumption amounts for MK2 for the years 1997 through 2006 and related information on Bailey Coal mercury content. As was discussed during the meeting with PSNH staff on October 27, 2009, the Department needs additional information in order to finalize its review and determination of the baseline mercury input as defined in New Hampshire RSA 125-O:12,III. The Department requests that PSNH submit the following additional information by November 30, 2009.

1. Monthly coal consumption data for each type of coal burned in MK1 for calendar years 1997 through 2008;
2. Monthly coal consumption data for each type of coal burned in MK2 for calendar years 2007 and 2008;
3. Monthly coal consumption data for each type of coal burned at Schiller Station for calendar years 1997 through 2008;
4. Coal shipment data (FERC form) for Schiller Station for March 2005;
5. Update to the *Coal Shipment Mercury Analytical Data for Merrimack and Schiller Stations* (submitted to the Department in December 2006) for the period beginning in December 2006 through December 2008;
6. To provide consistency with the baseline mercury input data previously submitted in September 7, 2007, for items 1. through 3. above, where necessary, provide further description of the mines associated with each characterization of the coal type. For example, please provide the names of the mines associated with the "mid-sulfur" coal;

7. Provide an explanation of how the monthly coal consumption is calculated including an explanation of how the annual adjustment tonnage is calculated, used, and reported and how the E-belt scales are used.
8. Provide an explanation of how moisture is factored into the coal consumption data and the baseline mercury input calculation; and
9. Provide further explanation of the Merrimack Station Mercury Emissions Data for 1999 with respect to the volume percentage of coal shipments analyzed.

The Department intends to finalize its review of this data and make a determination of the baseline mercury input in accordance with NH RSA 125-O:14, I. Once the review is completed, the Department will issue a draft determination that will be available on the Department's website and will be available for public comment. A final determination regarding this matter will be made once all relative public comments have been considered.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Michele Andy of the Air Resources Division, Permitting & Environmental Health Bureau, by phone at (603) 271-6793 or by e-mail at michele.andy@des.nh.gov.

Sincerely,



Robert R. Scott
Director
Air Resources Division

By certified mail # 7007 2560 0001 3867 7306

cc: William Smagula, PSNH
Lynn Tillotson, PSNH
Laurel Brown, PSNH